



The Church of God



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DECLARATION OF FAITH

WE BELIEVE

1. In the verbal inspiration of the Bible.

2. In one God eternally existing in three persons; namely, the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

3. That Jesus Christ is the only begotten Son of the Father, conceived of the Holy Ghost, and born of the virgin Mary. That Jesus was crucified, buried, and raised from the dead; that He ascended to heaven and is today at the right hand of the Father as the Intercessor.

4. That all have sinned and come short of the glory of God, and that repentance is commanded of God for all and necessary for forgiveness of sins.

5. That justification, regeneration, and the new birth are wrought by faith in the blood of Jesus Christ.

6. In sanctification subsequent to the new birth, through faith in the blood of Christ; through the Word, and by the Holy Ghost.

7. Holiness to be God's standard of living for His people.

8. In the baptism with the Holy Ghost subsequent to a clean heart.

9. In speaking with other tongues as the Spirit gives utterance, and that it is the initial evidence of the baptism of the Holy Ghost.

10. In water baptism by immersion, and all who repent should be baptized in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Ghost.

11. Divine healing is provided for all in the atonement.

12. In the Lord's Supper and washing of the saints' feet.

13. In the premillennial second coming of Jesus. First, to resurrect the righteous dead and to catch away the living saints to Him in the air. Second, to reign on the earth a thousand years.

14. In the bodily resurrection; eternal life for the righteous and eternal punishment for the wicked.

COVER PICTURE

It Happened in Georgia

The Church of God at Bowdon, Ga., was built under the most severe persecution. It is located on the main street of Bowdon and on the Alabama highway. It is built of ver-text face, range of color, number one brick. It has hardwood floors, art stained-glass windows. The inside of the church is done in natural oak. The walls are plastered with a solid ceiling overhead, and this ceiling has been covered with the nicest cellotex that could be bought. All lighting fixtures are recessed. The church has a new Wurlitzer piano, Hammond organ, and a completely automatic chime system. On the wall just behind the pulpit hangs an antique chime clock with four long hanging gold bars. This clock chimes at the start of each service. The gable window is art stained-glass and shows Christ kneeling in Geth-



FRED McWHORTER

semane. Each evening at six o'clock a time clock turns a spotlight on this window and turns on the neon sign on the front of the vestibule. The neon sign reads "Church of God" in fluorescent pink letters, and just under this are the words "Full Gospel" in fluorescent blue. The "Full Gospel" part of the sign flashes on and off, while the other stays on. The sign and gable-window spotlight are automatically cut off at midnight by the time clock. The church lot is 176 by 250 feet. The auditorium of the church has a seating capacity of approximately 400. The building was built at a cost of \$25,000; this does not include the furnishings. The church has a membership of 38. No public soliciting has been done for this building, or any other work of the church, yet there is an indebtedness of only \$5,000.

Space will not permit me to give you a complete detailed account of the work and happenings since we first started in Bowdon, Ga., two years ago. I hope this article will be a real blessing to every pastor and lay mem-

ber who reads it, and especially those who are in a building program. First, I want to say I have been made to realize, in my work here, that there is really no such thing as defeat under any circumstance if you purpose in your heart not to accept it. In the closing days of August, 1948, we came to Bowdon, Ga., with the district tent and started a meeting. Some other brethren aided in the securing of a lot and in erecting the tent. Other Pentecostals had tried this town and given up in despair. For 4 weeks multitudes of people attended our services from all sections of the country. Many came to the altar, but no one prayed through to the baptism in the first 4 weeks. Several were saved and sanctified. There were only two Pentecostal men in Bowdon at that time—Brother E. L. Williamson and Tommy Daniels. Both were of untold encouragement.

All went well until we announced that we were going to organize a church. The church was organized with 6 members. Immediately trouble started. The other two churches of the town threw all the opposition they could muster against us. Petitions began to be circulated, and it seemed that overnight all was hopeless. The mayor and council were unfriendly and would not give a so-called permit. After many weeks of suffering and trying to get the money to buy a lot, finally one good man loaned me the money, and a nice lot was bought on the front street. The neighbors or property owners adjoining this property, and none were really near it, signed and circulated petitions. The chief of police stopped us three times from erecting our tent on our own property. We tried to cooperate, and waited for many weeks. Some of our own people began to take sides with the petitioners and insist that we give up this lot, which we did. After untold trouble and delay, I secured another lot and matters here were even worse. Finally, Brother Simmons, some other brethren, and I met with the mayor, council, and petitioners. They were dominant and ugly to us and announced there was no place for us to build there, and that we were unwanted. Some of these were deacons and stewards of the other two churches. We erected our tent on this property anyway, and, to make it short, we were arrested twice and belittled in most every possible way. By this time both sides were employing lawyers, and the fire was really burning—I mean opposition. It did seem hopeless, for we had no money, and the lot was bought with borrowed money. Brother Simmons and I met with the mayor and council again, and they would not consent to our building anywhere around there. Varying fraud excuses were used. In just a short time the tent was burned, but in the meantime we worshiped in this cold tent all the winter, with rain coming in on us. By this time another person had started a work of opposition and took our piano without consent. One night the benches were moved, and, of course, all of this had to be recovered

(Continued on page 13)

Editorials . . .

ENVY

Webster's Collegiate Dictionary says that envy is chagrin or discontent at the excellence or good fortune of another; resentful begrudging. In Prov. 14:30, the wise man Solomon said, "Envy is the rottenness of the bones." To my mind, this is equivalent to saying that envy is a putrefying, corruptive thing to the person who possesses or indulges in it, and the envious person wields putrefying, corrupt influence over and about others. We know what happens when the bones are destroyed or give way in the human body—it is limp and useless. In other words, there could be no form, strength, or fashion to a body without bones. Therefore, a person in this condition could not be expected to be of benefit to himself or anyone else. In fact, he would only be burdensome to himself and others. Envy (envyings) is listed by Paul in Gal. 5:21 as one of the works of the flesh, about which he says, "They which do such things shall not inherit the kingdom of God." Surely, no statement could show the exceeding sinfulness of this fruit of the flesh, **envy**, more than this prohibition on the **envious person** entering into God's eternal and everlasting kingdom, which is the brightest hope anyone can have for the future. Paul here makes it very clear that he is strongly opposed to such a characteristic and is equally as strong in his denunciation of it. In fact, he not only mentions this **work of the flesh** in this instant, but in several other places in his epistles. For instance, when writing to the church at Rome, he said, "Let us walk honestly, as in the day; not in . . . **envying**." On another occasion, when writing to the church at Corinth, his message was, "Ye are yet carnal: for whereas there is among you envying, and strife, and divisions, are ye not carnal, and walk as men?" "For I fear, lest, when I come, I shall not find you such as I would, and that I shall be found unto you such as ye would not: lest there be debates, envyings, wraths, strifes, backbitings, whisperings, swellings, tumults." Such unbecoming conduct is full proof to my mind that this was a group of unsanctified members of the church at Corinth. In fact, turning to the first chapter of First Corinthians, verse two, we read these words, which support very clearly the fact that there were those in the Corinthian Church who were **sanctified**, as well as those who were not: "To them that are **sanctified** in Christ Jesus." It most assuredly would be unreasonable to even expect to see such unethical, carnal conduct on the part of a fully and entirely consecrated Christian as some of the Corinthians were guilty of. It is true that there are those who profess sanctification who may be guilty of such conduct at times, but if so, it is an indisputable fact that their sanctification is not what it should be. As envious, carnally minded church members in the Corinthian church caused no little trouble, so those who are of that nature and disposition cause trouble in the churches today, the envious especially. It will be well to remember that envy is the father of a host of children, and generally he has them with him, and they let it be known that they are present.

One of the outstanding characteristics of an envious person is that he always disparages others in that he looks for something evil in them so that by contrast or comparison he may make himself to appear to be much better. James 3:14-16 says, "If ye have **bitter envying** and strife in your hearts, glory not, and lie not against the truth. This wisdom descendeth not from above, but is **earthly, sensual, devilish**. For where envying and strife is, there is confusion and every evil work." The envious person magnifies the blessings of another to such a degree as to totally and completely eclipse his own blessings, be he ever so successful in whatever his office or work may be. A prominent writer has said, "Envy destroys the sentiment of love, paralyzes the power of appreciation, and **steals away personal peace**."

Solomon surely was right in saying that envy is "rottenness of the bones," for it so fills a person with bitterness and jealousy that all his strength and virtue is poisoned and has a poisonous effect upon all who associate with him. No wonder we have the question in Prov. 27:4, "Who is able to stand before envy?" Is it not true that the most

innocent, unsuspecting, consecrated, and righteous person will be misjudged, begrudged, and resented by the envious in his every word and act? Small wonder an experienced writer has said, "An envious person feeds on the impurities he scents in the air and grows fat in proportion as he finds the evil he seeks in others." Therefore, as another has said, "The individual who wishes to succeed or have peace in this life should avoid an envious person as he would avoid a pestilence." Paul said, "Abstain from all appearance of evil."

Let us think for a moment as we glance through the pages of the Holy Bible to see what envy has done through envious people. Think of Joseph who was sold into Egypt by his own brothers; Rachel's heart filled with bitterness toward her sister; Aaron and Miriam, the brother and sister of Moses, rising in ridicule against him. Not only that, but Israel as a whole rebelled against him to the point that God said, "Step aside that I may destroy them from the face of the earth." It was envy that through the rebel mob the Lord Jesus Christ was taken to the mock trial where He suffered His face to be beaten and spit upon, His beard pulled, His back beaten, and His brow crowned with thorns, while His body was draped in a purple robe, which, no doubt, stuck close to His back because of the blood from the many stripes that were inflicted upon Him. It was **envy** that nailed Him to the cross; but it was love, God's love, His love, love for a lost world and even His tormentors and crucifiers, that caused Him to die there. Envy caused Cain to take his brother Abel's life. It is the motivating, inspiring power of war and conquest, greed's resource, love's dead weight, the broad road to sin and shame, and the pitfall of all spirituality.

Was it not the ruin of Judas Iscariot and the downfall of Demas? And is it not the basis on which the antichrist will yet erect his throne? **Envy made the devil what he is**. It was envy that led him to exalt himself and rebel against God, for did not he say, "I am a God; I sit in the seat of God; I will ascend above the heights of the clouds," Ezek. 28:2; Isa. 14:14? It was envious pride that moved him to seek equality with God, and even superiority to God—he was chagrined at God's excellency. It was envy that inspired his satanic soul to deceive Eve, which resulted in both her downfall and Adam's; and it was nothing short of an envious motive that moved him to whisper temptations to the Son of God in the three great debates in the wilderness. But isn't it wonderful that though Adam and Eve fell under his subtle temptation in the Garden of Eden, Jesus Christ, the second Adam, conquered, triumphed, triumphed victoriously, in the vast solitude of the wilderness? Yes, and in that He triumphed, He has made it possible that every child of God may overcome the devil. Simon Peter's exhortation was, "Wherefore laying aside all malice, and all guile, and hypocrisies, and **envies**, and all evil speakings, as newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby." Some Christians remain baby Christians and, therefore, act babyish entirely too long; while others are in their second babyhood, and they are generally worse. The Lord Jesus is of tender compassion toward young Christians, so should all ministers and other members be; but there comes a time when the young Christian should develop into manhood and womanhood. When that stage of adulthood is reached in Christ Jesus, that work of the flesh, **envy**, should be dead and buried along with all the other works of the flesh, of which the blood of the Lord Jesus washes our souls free. Then, as Paul says, the result will be "fruits unto holiness, and the end everlasting life."

A young man in the village had been badly insulted, and he hurried to his parson to tell him about it, adding the declaration that he was going immediately to the offender and see to it that justice was done.

"Better go home, son," said the pastor, kindly.

"Go home?" retorted the aggrieved youth. "But I've been insulted!"

"That's why you should go home. An insult is like mud."

"I know it is. And I'm going to clean it up."

"Son, there is one thing you might as well learn now as later." The parson's hand touched the youth's broad shoulder. "The whole world has got to learn it. And that is that the mud will brush off a lot more easily when it is dry."

—Philip J. Cleveland.

MERCY

on the Battlefield

REV. M. S. LEMONS, CLEVELAND, TENN.

Jesus tells us that He who calls upon the name of the Lord shall be saved. Again He says, "Ask, and it shall be given you; seek, and ye shall find; knock, and it shall be opened unto you."

Having lived in the world until this late date in life, I have considered greatly these valuable calls from the Lord; and these wonderful expressions of love, I am sure, would be of interest to those in the most extreme and sorrowful plights of life. Even in the most trying hour, possibly in the last moments of life, He would hear the faintest cry.

Down in the very center of the Southland there grows a little weed, near the edge of the woodlands, in the swamps or in the fields. This little weed is called a rattlesnake weed. It grows to be ten or twelve inches high, and it has one blossom at the top. This blossom looks just like a rattlesnake's open mouth. It was discovered by a gentleman who was walking through the forest and saw a blacksnake and a rattlesnake fighting. He noticed that every now and then the blacksnake would run out to this weed and take a bite of it, then come back and fight again. After eating some of the weed he would fight as vigorously as ever. He did this for four or five times, and the gentleman watched the proceedings until he was sure the blacksnake's biting this weed was a cure for the poison that the rattlesnake put into him. Then he went and pulled the weed up, and when the blacksnake came back and couldn't find the weed he dropped his head down and in a moment was dead. There are thousands of people who know this weed now as being a cure for rattlesnake bite. It has proved to be a preparation by the Lord to destroy the venom injected by the rattlesnake into his enemy. I have seen and know that this rattlesnake weed is used in a preparation for poison, and, doubtlessly, God made it to bless the human family.

God endeavors to show His love in the most extreme conditions and circumstances of life. In the Song of Solomon, the second chapter, we read, "I am the rose of Sharon, and the lily of the valleys. As the lily among thorns, so is my love among the daughters. As the apple tree among the trees of the wood, so is my beloved among the sons." In the most extreme, unexpected places, where the lilies are blooming among the thorns and bushes, Jesus is right there to help those who are expiring and coming to the very end. At the last pulsation, when life has almost completely ebbed away, he that calleth upon the name of the Lord can hear His sweet voice, "I died upon the rugged cross for you." Jesus will be with any son or daughter who trusts in Him, though

it may be in the extreme instance, in the hardest place, where sin has been so rampant and hope lost, and not a gentle hand or voice can be heard or felt. And, like the pensive Ruth, the pitiful, sorrowful one, any girl or boy can find the grain still golden and the morning sunlight bright and fair as they go into the new country, as did she.

The Lord is present at all times and under all circumstances, even on the bloody battlefield or on some far distant shore. He will prove that He is still the Saviour of the lost and will take them to His banqueting house, and "His banner over them is love." I am well aware of the fact that the great Son of God who gave His life on the cross on dark Mount Calvary will be present to help every fainting one who has been trapped by an untrue friend or lover. The boys who have left their homes and are now on the bloody battlefield, when the blood has almost all drained from their veins, and the damp dew is on their brow, perhaps they can be heard to say, "I wish mother or sister were here." But since this can not be true, not a gentle hand can come to the relief, and they lay their heads back on the damp, cold ground to die, if they could hear Jesus say, "I died for thee on the rugged cross; come



M. S. LEMONS

and go with me," I am sure this would be a glad moment, even when there wasn't a friend to be had. I know that Jesus has great love for the souls of men and women, and His great heart of sympathy would gladly go out to anyone in the most extreme hour or time of death. The spirit always goes back to God who gave it, and God, whose great heart is in sympathy with His Son, is always willing to assist Him in any time of need. (Write Rev. M. S. Lemons about getting this in tract form.)

N. S. S. A. COMMISSIONS

The recent meeting of the National Sunday School Association in historic old Philadelphia was a spiritual treat for all those who attended. The Church of God was well represented at this meeting, and its decisions and inspirations will be passed on to our people.

One of the most significant features of the meeting was the establishment of various commissions which will work throughout the year for greater and more effective evangelical Sunday Schools. These commissions met with the president of the N. S. S. A., Dr. James DeForest Murch, and he outlined the work that they are to do. To give you an example of the nature and function of these commissions, I shall mention the work that is to be done by the commission to which your writer has been appointed: The Teacher's Training Commission. First, the members are to make a thorough study of teacher's training—its practice in the various denominations, its extent, and its results. Then, information is to be made available on the various phases of teacher's training. Those desiring information on the subject can secure it by simply writing to the Teacher's Training Commission. Naturally, a function of the commission will be to stimulate and encourage teacher's training courses and to establish standards for it

throughout the various denominations. A bibliography, or book list, will be prepared also, which will list all the known books, pamphlets, and articles available on this great subject.

The good of this commission can be readily seen; and when it is multiplied by the number of commissions appointed, it is immediately evident that this is a significant and propitious step by the association. It was a delight to attend the meeting with our Editor-in-Chief and work with such a splendid group of fellow Christians. —Charles W. Conn.

AS I SAW IT

The Fifth Annual National Sunday School Convention was another positive step toward a united effort for Christian evangelization. The motto of the convention, "Revival now through the Sunday School," revealed the very heart of this great meeting. The forty gifted speakers, demonstrations, forums, workshops, departmental sessions, and exhibits of help seemed permeated with a dedication to make the Sunday School an institution alive, vital, and aggressive in reaching all people of all ages with the gospel of deliverance. The influence of this mighty session should have definite effect upon the evangelistic emphasis of the Sunday Schools in America.—Lewis J. Willis.

LEE COLLEGE



"FAMILY STYLE" SERVICE LEE COLLEGE CAFETERIA

For many years now Lee College has been growing and developing by leaps and bounds. It has made great strides in the academic field—new courses have been added, the staff has been increased, courses of study have been modified to better meet the needs of the students, and teaching methods have been improved.

Up until this year, however, little had been done to modify and improve

the service in one of our most important departments, the cafeteria. This year the administration recognized this lag and decided to do something about it.

With the administration doing the planning, and Mrs. W. H. Yates, Home Economics instructor, and Mr. John Pigg, cafeteria manager, carrying out the plans, Lee College students have been introduced to "family style" service. Under this plan, each student has an assigned seat at a table with nine other students. He has five min-

utes to take his place after the bell rings, and remains standing with everyone else until the blessing has been asked.

Each table has a host and hostess, who start the serving. The hostess starts the cold food, which is already on the table when the students enter, and the host starts the hot food, which is placed on the table after everyone is seated. All the rules of etiquette, such as seating the lady to your right, passing the food to your right, following the leadership of the host, etc., are observed.

The students are allotted a given length of time to eat, and a bell is rung at the end of the period so that everyone will leave at the same time.

The purposes of this change from the cafeteria style are to create a home-like atmosphere, to create a more cultural environment, to teach table etiquette, to save food, to maintain standards that other colleges hold, and to improve the social life of the students by changing the seating arrangement at various times during the semester.

Immediate results to be seen from the venture are less noise and confusion than previously and no more standing in line. Cafeteria workers and waitresses have to be more alert and work faster, but they are becoming accustomed to the change. The waitresses are being provided with yellow cotton uniforms. Against the background of the green walls, this should be very pleasing to the eye.

Music is being provided during some of the meals and will be provided regularly as soon as a schedule can be worked out.

There is always a period of adjustment following a change, and Lee College is undergoing that adjustment with flying colors. When all the little wrinkles are ironed out, and everything gets to working smoothly, this change will probably prove to be one of the most profitable ventures of the year and a great step in the progress of our school.

"FAVORITE RECIPES"

A book of favorite recipes of prominent women in the Church of God and Home Economics Department of Lee College has been compiled by the Home Economics Club, under the direction of Mrs. Beatrice Yates. This is the first book of its kind to be published in our Church and represents conscientious and untiring efforts on the part of the Home Economics Club members and Mrs. Yates.

This book of economical recipes, for meats, vegetables, breads, salads, and desserts, is a very practical book, with a plastic cover. It sells for only \$1.25. All profit from the sales goes to help the Home Economics Department.

This offer is being made just in time for Christmas. Any homemaker or willing group would profit by using it, so hurry up and get your order in. Address all orders to

**HOME ECONOMICS CLUB
LEE COLLEGE
CLEVELAND, TENNESSEE**

Foreign Missions

Every Creature
All the world—



J. H. WALKER, SR.
Executive Missions Secretary

NOTICE

Brother H. K. Suleiman, who has pastored the Church of God in Bethlehem, is here in the States. His son and daughter, David and Jean, are attending Lee College. Brother and Sister Suleiman are available for services. His definite knowledge of the Holy Lands, having lived there his entire life, and his presentations of Bible lands can bless your congregation.

Anyone desiring his services may write to J. H. Walker, Sr., Executive Missions Secretary, Cleveland, Tennessee.

MY EXPERIENCE ON THE SHIP COMING TO THE STATES

HANNA K. SULEIMAN

We want, first of all, to thank our Lord for the word of testimony He has placed in our mouths in telling others about Him. Praise the Lord!

We left Bethlehem on the 2nd day of September to go to Beeruit on our way to the States, and the next day we had the joy of meeting with some of our refugee brethren who left Palestine because of the trouble. We were very glad to learn from them that they had been used of the Lord in Lebanon in spreading the Pentecostal message. Praise the Lord!

On the 4th of September we went on board the ship "Corinthia," a Greek vessel. The majority of the passengers were Greek; the others were of different nationalities. Our first person to speak with was a Greek Coptic priest, who was in Palestine for seven years and was returning to Egypt, his native land. He was very receptive to the message; a few hours before he landed at Alexandria he gave his heart to the Lord, and we both prayed for him to receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost. He expressed his willingness to take off the long, priestly costume and join us in the work. That brought great joy to our hearts. Praise God! Please pray for him.

We met with a Greek Orthodox priest, also, who was on his way to Athens, and our friend, the Coptic priest, talked to him about our message and both were in touch with us until they parted. Another person we conversed with was an aged Moslem trader on his way to France. I talked with him quite a long time about

Christianity, and he seemed interested, for which I praise God. The next person I talked with was a young man who was in despair because his mother had died recently, and the world in his eyes seemed so small, he not knowing how to control his sorrow. The Lord helped me to speak words of consolation to him. At the same time I gave him the message of the new birth. He seemed so thankful and happy, and rejoiced because the Lord sent us to him. Some of the Palestinian families, also, and young men (some of them were Moslems) heard our message, and before they left us gave us their addresses in order that we might communicate with them.

On September 12 we landed at Genoa, Italy, and spent the night. On September 13 we went on board the ship "Brasil," an Italian vessel. We sailed at midnight, this time with our faces turned toward America. Our next stop was at Lisbon, Portugal. During that period I became acquainted with many of the passengers, and I found that the majority were Catholics. Almost 97 per cent who were Italians by birth (but American citizens) were returning from a visit to their homeland, Italy.

The first group of people to whom we gave the message of salvation was six Maltese young men. One of them was married and has four boys. I was speaking with them in a buffet where many of those Italian friends were sitting and listening to us (because most of them knew English, being in America for many years). Those young men were Catholics, but I am so glad to have found them receptive to the message, and for many days we continued talking with them about salvation. In appreciation to that, they gave us their addresses in the States in order that we might write them. We ask you to pray for them, please.

We met with a German family, later, composed of the father, mother, and their only daughter. Those dear ones had the chance to hear from us the message of the new birth, and they became very intimate friends to us. They are Lutherans, but they enjoyed singing with us, and said they would like so much to come on to Cleveland with us, but could not. The father is a mechanical engineer and is very clever. Please help me pray that they will receive the baptism of the Holy Ghost. We parted with them at New York.

We were feeling our lack of someone to join us in prayers on behalf of those people on the ship to be saved. One day our son, David, was passing on the deck, and he saw two Italian ladies reading their Bibles. He quickly told his mother, "Mother, there are two ladies like you, reading their Bibles!" Immediately, I went out of the cabin to look for them. Sure enough, they were Pentecostal women who belong to a certain Pentecostal church in Brooklyn, N. Y. We had a grand time together, and were very much revived as we knelt down to praise God aloud in our cabin.

One day I met the Catholic clergyman who officiates every morning for the Catholic passengers, and I told him how glad I was to see the passengers come to hear the Word of God. At first he thought I was Catholic, but as I continued my conversation with him he discovered that I was Protestant, and before he tried to run away, one of those sisters, who were standing near by listening to our conversation, stepped forward and told him in Italian (because he pretended that he did not know English) that I was a missionary, and she caught him on the spot and testified to him in his own language. She told him of how the Lord had saved her and filled her with the Holy Ghost. When the priest heard this, he tore himself away from our midst and ran quickly, saying, "I am too busy; I am too busy," and disappeared from our sight. We met with another Catholic. He was a middle-aged man. He thought we were Catholic, too, but when we told him that apart from the Lord Jesus Christ there is no salvation, and without the new birth there is no certainty of entering heaven, he became hysterical and immediately called for his friends. They gathered around us and talked to him against us, but we kept sitting there, until finally he disappeared with his comrades.

We praise the Lord for the Italian woman who was the steward on the ship. She gladly heard the gospel message from us. She must have had her heart touched by the Holy Spirit. She believed our message and confessed to us how that corruption is in abundance among the priests of a certain group. She wanted to become a member of our church. She believed we were true Christians. She expressed appreciation of the fact that our clergymen marry and do not commit abominable sins. If she had the privilege of leaving that ship, I am sure she would be a real testimony for Christ among the Italian people. She promised to be faithful to what she had heard from us, and as we parted she pleaded with us to remember her in our prayers.

We arrived at New York September 26, 1950, and on the same day Brother J. H. Walker came and took us in his car all the way back to Cleveland, Tennessee, without waiting to take some rest before returning. When we arrived at Cleveland, we were warmly welcomed by our dear people, and ever since have been their guests. May the Lord bless them in return.

Middle East Bible Lands

By REV. D. B. HATFIELD, SUPERINTENDENT

Dear Friends at Home:

As we sit down to draft our letter this month (October), we are still sweltering under extreme heat. Our summer seasons are miserably hot. The heat here begins in May and continues through September. July and August are our two most unbearable months. We have seen the temperature rise to 116 degrees F.; this, of course, was the highest on record for the Middle East. The temperature has frequently gone over the hundred mark this season. We are glad to be moving toward the end of the summer, though it means that we must immediately enter the rainy season, which is just as much to the extreme as is the heat season.

Let Us Take You for a Visit in Cyprus This Month

Probably it is not possible for all of you to visit the Bible lands; for this reason we purpose to mail out our letter as often as we can, so that you may always share with us our experiences, wishes and wants, and learn of our efforts and opportunities in these parts. It's true that we are living in Cyprus, and why? Outside of the fact that Cyprus is a ripe field for the gospel, it is, also, the most strategic spot on the missionary map in the Middle East from which one may centralize his efforts toward the evangelization of the people and establishing of the Church in the Bible lands in latter days.

Due to the friction that exists between the Arabs and the Jews over the Palestine question today, it's quite impossible for one to live in either an Arab or Jewish country if he has to travel in and out of both territories. He would be considered a spy, or a sympathizer with one or the other. Since our work necessitates that we travel in both territories, we have chosen Cyprus, a neutral country, for the mission headquarters of our work in the Bible lands. This we feel is the will of the Lord, until such a time when the Mission Department will be able to place missionaries in all these territories. Traveling to and from these countries is made easy by reason of the numerous ships and planes that call at the ports of Cyprus. It is only one night by ship and approximately two hours by plane from Cyprus to either Palestine or Egypt.

Cyprus is a British Crown Colony, with religious freedom extended to the missionary in the preaching of the gospel. It is the second largest island in the Mediterranean Sea, and is conveniently located, lying ninety miles northwest of Palestine and sixty miles directly west of Lebanon, forty miles south of Turkey, and two hundred and forty miles north of Egypt. Its population is five hundred thousand people. Out of every one hundred persons, eighty are Greeks, belong-

ing to the Greek Orthodox Church; eighteen are Turks, of the Moslem faith; and two are from other communities, including the Catholics, Armenians, and those of the Protestant faith. The three principal languages are Greek, English, and Turkish; Greek is far the most spoken.

Cyprus was the homeland of Barnabas (Acts 4:36, 37). The people of Cyprus say Barnabas was from a very wealthy family. This, of course, accounts for his having land which he sold, and brought the money and laid it at the apostles' feet. Cyprus was, also, the first foreign soil on which the first two missionaries sent out by the Church set foot after leaving Antioch, Syria. They landed at a city in Cyprus called Salamis, on the eastern shores of the Island. This city was twelve miles long and two miles wide. It was a great metropolis of the early centuries. It was shaken by an earthquake in the third century, and half of it fell in the sea, while the other half lies buried in the sand there on the seashore today.

The Cypriots are a friendly people. For centuries they have been drilled in the religion of the Greek Orthodox Church, which is strictly opposed to the Protestant faith. In our regular services here we are constantly finding earnest truth seekers. Missionary work in this field requires patience to wait for results. Converts do not come quickly. Extensive teaching must be done before the people grasp the knowledge of salvation as we teach it and have experienced it.

Child Baptismal Service

This week we shall attend a baptismal service in the Orthodox Church. A neighbor's infant child is to be baptized. All infants here are baptized, after which they are considered to be Christians and members of the church. This particular child will be held by a young lady who attends our services, and who will speak for the child when the priest asks the question: "Do you believe in the Lord Jesus Christ?" There are many strong traditions here which have a firm grip on the minds and lives of the people. These we must study and understand, ourselves, in order to help the people to enlightened truths in the Bible.

Reading Room Needed

It's on our hearts to open a reading room where the people may have access to fundamental Christian literature. Such a place is an attraction for our work, and places us in contact with the people and in a position to guide them. However, we need, for this purpose suitable books and subscriptions to leading Christian magazines in English. Also, we plan to have a section containing books and tracts in Greek for those who do not understand or read English. This particular section will have to wait,

however, until we acquire funds for the purchase of such materials.

The first friendship we made after returning to Cyprus last spring was with a fine young man at the Nicosia Airport. He asked us if we had any reading material. He was interested in reading good books. He has since become a closer friend and is interested in our work.

We shall always welcome a letter from our friends back home, and from anyone interested in the work in this field.

Your missionaries in the Bible Lands,
The Hatfields.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

Pray For

A sinner to be saved; a child of God who needs healing; an old lady; a brother in Christ to be healed.—A reader.

God to heal me.—Mrs. Ella Jenkins, Culbertson, N. C.

Our home; my husband and me to be healed.—Mrs. G. R. Spurlock, Avon Park, Fla.

A special request.—Mrs. C. G. Ricker, Wolf Creek, Tenn.

My husband who is unaved; another man to be saved; his family.—A sister, High Point, N. C.

My family; my son who has a broken back.—Bottie Anding, Grayson, La.

Mrs. E. L. Johnson to be healed.

My brother to be saved and healed; my dad's soul.—Mrs. Okey Burge, Marietta, Ohio.

My home and family.—A brother, Savannah, Ga.

A very special request.—Mrs. Nora Westfall, Russell, Ky.

The complete healing of my body.—Edna Floyd, Lamont, Fla.

The healing of my body; me to receive the Holy Ghost.—Mrs. G. H. Daugherty, Elkins, W. Va.

My baby; my loved ones to be saved; our pastor's body to be healed; the healing of my body; our church.—Bessie Driggers, Winnsboro, S. C.

My husband to be healed; my daughter to be saved and healed; me.—LaVada Wood, Rome, Ga.

My daughter to be healed.—Mr. and Mrs. A. P. Baldree, Lutz, Fla.

My next-door neighbor.—Mrs. Morris Odom, Donaldsonville, Ga.

My son-in-law to be saved.—A sister, Tallapoosa, Ga.

Me to be healed of an enlarged heart.—Chastine Curbow, Simms, Texas.

My husband who is a backslider to come back to the Lord; be healed; my little boy who has lost his hearing; my family of six to be saved; the healing of my body.—Lucille Kiggam, Dart, Ohio.

THE BIBLE BASIS OF MISSIONS

Robert Hall Glover

Only in the Bible can one discover the true message and method of Christian missions. After a long and fruitful ministry as a foreign missionary, and careful study of the Word of God, the author presents his convictions concerning missions and their relation to the Church, pastor, Holy Spirit, Christ's return, man, money, prayer, etc. The stress in this book is not sociology or psychology but "theology." It abounds with examples, facts, and scriptural applications that will make this a handbook for missionary students and speakers. Illustrated, cloth. Price \$1.75.

CHURCH OF GOD PUBLISHING HOUSE
Montgomery Avenue, Cleveland, Tennessee

The Power of the Spirit of God

REV. GAYLE JACKSON AT THE
MEMPHIS CONVENTION—P. F. N. A.
OCTOBER 5, 1950

Evangelist Gayle Jackson is affiliated with the Assemblies of God, Springfield, Mo.

CONDENSED BY EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

We are living in a great day. I think it is one of the greatest hours in which a man could care to live. Somebody might think otherwise, and when you think of the trouble and the turmoil, the war, the suffering, the bloodshed, the sin, the iniquity, and the bitter side of life, it does look dark; but, thank God, there is another side. The Bible tells us that in a day like this, God Almighty will pour out His Spirit again upon the world; and we are enjoying a great outpouring of the Spirit of God upon the sons and daughters of the Lord. I believe this is the day of Pentecost—the greatest hour. I have looked back over history and the Bible, and I have thought of days when I might have enjoyed living, but I feel tonight it is a great time to be alive, when God is manifesting Himself in a way such as He has never done before. We see the miraculous hand of God in an unusual way, a common thing from night to night, with miracle after miracle by God's mighty power, and then the mighty deluge of the Spirit of God that is being poured out upon the people of every church under heaven. I have watched them being filled with the Spirit of God by the scores night after night. I think it is time that we challenge the enemy with everything we have, and find our place in the body and go to work. We have the resources. The power of God is in us. The Bible says, "Greater is he that is in you than he that is in this world." I believe that tonight. Will you say, "Amen"? Now I want you to praise God and take your freedom in the Spirit tonight as we talk to you for a little while.

I want to read Luke 4:16-19: "And he came to Nazareth, where he had been brought up; and, as his custom was, he went into the synagogue on the sabbath day, and stood up for to read. And there was delivered unto him the book of the prophet Esaias. And when he had opened the book, he found the place where it was written, The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor; he hath sent me to heal the brokenhearted, to preach deliverance to the captives, and recovering of sight to the blind, to set at liberty them that are bruised, to preach the acceptable year of the Lord."

"The Spirit of God is upon me." The message tonight will deal with the ministry of the church of Jesus Christ on earth today. I think that one of the most important messages today

is the message concerning the ministry of the church of Jesus Christ. I believe that it calls the attention of more church leaders the world around at this present hour, possibly, than any other subject a man could mention. When I see this great gathering tonight and the various organizations, I am made to know quickly and, also, from the experiences of the campaign in the past two years of my life, in watching the brethren from the various denominations and organizations come together as brethren, and stand together in the great revival that is on in the world at this hour, I am made to know more than I have ever known before that the body of Christ or the Church of God is not an organization only, but it is a great living organism. Will you say, "Amen"?

As the head of a mortal directs the activities of a mortal, the very moves and actions of my life are guided by my head; so I believe tonight that the great Head of the church, Jesus Christ Himself, should control and animate the church of the living God.

I should like for you to go back with me to the story I have just read from the Bible, back to the country that once knew the physical presence of the Son of God, the country of His childhood days, where He grew up to be a man. Let us look, for a little while, at this picture that once knew Jesus Christ.

You will find yourself in this story tonight in the little city of Nazareth. It is the Sabbath day and the worshippers have come from the country round about and have gathered in the sacred confines of the synagogue. It was the tradition of the elders to hear the law read on this occasion and they had gathered for that sacred and solemn purpose. As you stand in the synagogue on this memorable day of 1900 years ago, suddenly there is another personality who walks into the synagogue. You look at Him. He looks like other men. There may be a little difference in His dress, because we look at Him and usually think of Him as the man in the white, seamless robe. He walks in the door. He has a physique and a form like other men, but there is something different about Him. As you look closely, there is a love light in His eye. There is a compassionate look as He walks stately and steadily down through the synagogue to where the minister stands. The minister picks up the scroll and hands it to Him. He turns the scroll to the story I have just read to you tonight. As He begins to read, He looks out over the congregation. Many are people He has known throughout His lifetime.

I think this is one of the most dynamic portions of the Word of God that I have ever read in my life. It is the portion that has brought courage to my heart. When I stood in the val-

ley of decision some months ago, wondering just what would happen if I stepped out on what I felt was the direct call of the Almighty God, after many days and weeks of prayer and seeking His face, this scripture gripped my heart, and I saw in it the same power that the Son of God had, and that we would be able to see the same mighty works that the Son of God enjoyed in His day.

Jesus Christ made no claim of the many various gifts He possessed, but there was one claim He did make, and that claim tonight can be made humbly by all the believers, Pentecostal men and women, and especially the ministry of this hour, "The Spirit of God is upon me." The Spirit of God, the mighty Administrator of the Nine Gifts, the Spirit of God that quickens the mortal body, the Spirit of God that wrought miracles in the day of Jesus Christ, is as powerful tonight as He ever was. We hear the people talking about possibly the days of miracles being over. Now and then somebody says, "The days of miracles are over." Let me tell you something, if there ever was an hour in the history of this world that the Church of God Almighty can arise and begin to look for the miraculous, it is now! It is here! The mighty revival of religion that shakes the country from one end to the other is on tonight, and the hour of Pentecost has come! Hallelujah! As I stand on this platform tonight, there are thousands, yes, thousands, who have experienced in the past few months of your own life in the city of Memphis, Tennessee, what God Almighty is doing, as literally hundreds and thousands, with tears streaming their faces, in honest repentance, are penitent before Almighty God, crying out night after night for God Almighty to forgive their sins. Likewise comes the mighty miracle-working power that delivers the sick from all manner of disease and drives out demon power. Hallelujah! There is no devil in the courts of hell tonight that can stand against the mighty power of the Spirit of God.

Jesus could have said many things, and He could have read many things. But He could never have read anything that would have meant more on this occasion than the portion of the Word of God He read when He said, "The Spirit of God is upon me." Ah, brother, the Bible says, "It is not by might, neither by power, but by the Spirit of Almighty God." Not by the might of a great organization; not by the power of the intellect of mortal; but with the Spirit of Almighty God the church of Jesus Christ marches on to triumphant victory; yes, through the greatest power that has ever dawned upon the church of Jesus. I believe that tonight. I think we are marching into the greatest thing. Oh, brother, let me tell you something right now! It is impossible for a person

to try to fathom or measure what God Almighty is about to do for this generation of mankind. We have the power. We have the force. We have that something that will get the job done—the power of the Spirit of God. You don't have to worry and try to discern what gifts you have. If you get the Spirit of God in your heart, the great Administrator of the Gifts will see that God makes a place for you, and you will have some real activity in the body of Christ. Hallelujah! Glory!

He says, "The Spirit of God is on me," and He tells us simply for what the Spirit is on Him. He says, "The Spirit hath anointed me to preach." The Bibles says that the Holy Ghost made a preacher out of Jesus Christ. If He did it for Jesus, He will do it for you and for me. He says, "He hath anointed me to preach the gospel." We appreciate music. That was beautiful music tonight. The great tent meetings are almost like cathedrals, with their organs and music, that we have to take across the country. Music is wonderful, but the revival that is on tonight is a revival of the preached Word of God, and we see thousands coming. It seems we can't run them off. They pack the tent and stand round about it. I have watched the people stand for an hour and fifteen or twenty minutes night after night as we preached the Word of Almighty God. Without a song or much of an invitation whatever, we only needed to open up the gate, and here they would run to the invisible cross of Jesus Christ to find pardon and deliverance from the sins that bind them. That is the kind of revival we have on today. God's Word is doing its part. God's Word will not return void.

Jesus says, "The Spirit of God is upon me, because he hath anointed me to preach the gospel to the poor." Oh, how the world needs the gospel tonight! When I started in my meetings across the country, with the large tent, somebody said to me, "Brother Jackson, you will never be able to carry on mass evangelism and preach the baptism of the Holy Ghost, with the evidence of speaking in other tongues. You will not be able to do it. You will be able to preach salvation. You will be able to preach healing. You will be able to preach the second coming. But you will not be able to preach the baptism of the Holy Spirit, with the evidence of speaking in tongues." I went before God, in one of my meetings, and prayed until I almost fell on the platform at night as I would speak, in Biloxi, Mississippi. I see people tonight from the place about which I am about to speak. God showed me that He would baptize men and women with the Spirit of God. I don't know if it was a vision or what it was, but it seemed that I could see men and women as far as I could look. They seemed to be coming up a hillside. God said, "I will baptize them by the hundreds with the Holy Ghost, and that with power." I told the audience in Biloxi what God had told me He was going to do. We moved from Biloxi to the next meeting, and

one night the mighty power of God fell and 1,500 men and women came rushing to the front to be filled with the Spirit of God. The mighty receiving meeting was on, and that night 500 men and women were baptized with the Holy Ghost, and every one of them spoke in tongues and glorified God.

Preach the Word! Praise God, we don't have to apologize for the Word. This is God's Word. The new birth is God's Word. Repentance for sin is God's Word. Holiness is God's Word. Sanctification is God's Word. Will you say Amen? The baptism of the Holy Ghost, with the evidence of speaking with other tongues, is God's Word. Will you say, "Amen"? The integrity of Almighty God is behind His Word tonight. The second coming of Jesus Christ is God's Word, and God will vindicate His Word when His Word is preached. You may preach the Word of God and not seem to get results, but you can't preach the Word of God without getting results. It will prosper unto the thing whereunto it is sent, and it will not return void. It has to work. He says, "He hath anointed me to preach the gospel." If you preach the gospel of Christ, you don't have to worry whether God will vindicate His Word and stand behind it. God is anxious to prove His Word.

I maintain that the ministry of the church of 1,900 years ago is the ministry that we ought to be enjoying right now. I believe it because the Bible says, "In the last days, saith God, I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh." Is that right? Now remember Joel said, "It shall come to pass afterward." That is the way he worded it. But in the second chapter of Acts, when the Holy Ghost fell on the day of Pentecost, Peter, when he gave it out, said that Joel had prophesied, "It shall come to pass, saith God, I will pour out of my spirit upon all flesh." What God said will come to pass, and there isn't a power of opposition that can keep it from coming to pass.

There must be a Holy Ghost revival in America. These meetings, where brethren come together and forget what denomination they belong to, are a great indication of the mighty revival that is on in the heart of the Christian, and no group of Christians has ever been able to be revived without bringing the lost to the Son of the living God. A revival starts with the Christians, and when Christians are revived, it brings a revival to that church. When all the Christians all over the country are revived, it brings a revival to the world.

We are not subject to the power of the devil; we are the children of the Most High God. We have been redeemed by the Saviour's blood; we have been healed by His stripes. Hallelujah! We are empowered by the Holy Ghost. The Bible says, "He whom the Son sets free is free indeed." Don't go around with your head down. Don't go around talking about what a hard time you have had serving God. Don't go around with the blues. You are free tonight. My brother, you can just look the devil in the face and say,

"Get behind me, Satan." I remember the time in my life when I wouldn't dare say that to the devil. I had the idea, like many other people, that if I said anything bad about the devil, he would make it harder than ever for me. God Almighty spoke to my heart, and I woke up one day to the fact that I stood victor over the thing. My Jesus said, "I beheld Satan as lightning fall from heaven. Behold, I give you power to tread on serpents and scorpions... and nothing shall by any means hurt you." Glory to God! He that is in you is greater than he that is in this world.

One day Jesus found a man sitting, by the Jericho Road, who was blind. Jesus asked him what he wanted. He said, "That I might receive my sight." Jesus spoke and the man received his sight and went on in the crowd shouting and praising God. Jesus walked up to the tomb of a man that had been dead three days. A loved one said, "By now, Master, he stinketh." Jesus wept. Then He called out, "Lazarus, come forth." Thank God, from the grave of three days the dead man arose and stood all wrapped in his garments until somebody cut him loose and let him go. Why? The Spirit of God was upon Jesus.

Listen closely. I have some more things I want you to hear. The time came when the job got too big for the Lord. He couldn't carry it all on. It gets too big for us today. I preached in the Catholic city of New Orleans not long ago, and it was the most pitiful thing in the world to stand there night after night and watch thousands of Roman Catholics throng that tent and sit there and touch those prayer cards as though they were diamonds or jewelry; and they came up, got out of their wheel chairs, and went on their way with their blinded eyes open. I saw two, three, or four hundred a night come running to God, saying, "I'll follow Jesus Christ." Ah, it is a sight on earth and you can't get through them. They line up as you go to your car, though you are wringing wet with perspiration; though you have preached your heart out and are dripping wet and cold, they stand on either side and you hear them say to one another as you pass by, "Oh, thank God, I got to touch him." We tell them it is not the power of man, but the power of the Holy Ghost that is the antidote against every power of hell on the face of God's earth today. It will bring a revival anywhere. The power of the Spirit of God is the same thing that Jesus had.

He called the Twelve and sent them out. He called the Seventy. They came back and said, "Lord, even the devils are subject unto us." They carried on the same ministry He did, and He said, "Rejoice not because devils are subject unto you, but rather rejoice because your names are written in heaven."

Then the time came when Jesus Christ must go. The job swelled on the Son of God until He couldn't take care of it by Himself. He couldn't take care of it with 82. So He promised to

(Continued on page 15)

...Skylights...

HE LEADETH ME

*"He leadeth me,
In pastures green? No, not always.
Sometimes He Who knoweth best
In kindness leadeth me in weary ways
Where heavy shadows be;
Out of the sunshine warm and soft
and bright,
Out of the sunshine into darkest night.
Oft would I yield to sorrow and to
fright
Only for this: I know He holds my
hand.
So, whether led in green, or desert
land
I trust, although I cannot understand."*

The Comforter.—Whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, ... think on these things (Phil. 4:8). I was riding one day on a Lake Shore train in the State of Ohio. In the seat behind me sat a little girl who was unattended by her mother or by any companion. I observed that she was silently crying. When the conductor reached her seat, he observed there was no one who seemed to be looking after her. He gently inquired of her, but she did not answer his questions. In the seat behind the child there sat a kind-faced motherly woman, and the conductor asked whether the child might sit beside her. I thought he must be a father because he seemed to understand so well. I noticed they did not talk much, but the little girl was snuggled up close, and I noticed from her face that she felt the warm sympathy of that friendly presence. The feeling of loneliness had disappeared. Is not that woman, I thought to myself, an illustration of the Divine Comforter, the tender and gentle Holy Spirit? Her mere presence was all the little girl needed to cleave the skies and to change the atmosphere of the little lone traveler.—From "Quiet Talks on Power," by S. D. Gordon.

Turtle Christians.—They ... searched the scriptures daily (Acts 17:11). Prof. J. A. Carlson, in "Your Body," speaks of hunger. A bird can go nine days without food, a man twelve days, a dog twenty days, a turtle five hundred days, a snake eight hundred days, a fish one thousand days, insects twelve hundred days. But food is necessary for all of God's creatures ... There are some "turtle" Christians, who go five hundred days without much real Bible meat; many "bird" Christians, who go more than nine days without food; not a few "fish" Christians, who go one thousand days without eating much of the honey and meat and bread of the Bible. Classify yourself!—From "Pickings," by Robert G. Lee, D. D.

Reading the Bible in Spare Moments.—Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine (1 Tim. 4:13). There was a very balky horse which no one in town could

drive. A kind gentleman undertook to drive him through the White Mountains. His owner laughed, and said, "You cannot drive him out of town, much less through the mountains." He said quietly, "I think I will manage him," and he did. He took some books along, and when the horse balked, he quietly flung the reins on the hook, took out a book and began to read, and waited patiently until the horse saw fit to start. After doing this several times, the horse was cured. Two choice books for believers to peruse while waiting and watching are the Bible and the hymn book!—From *The Sunday School Times*.

The natural mind is ever prone to reason when we ought to believe; to be busy with work when we should be quiet; to go our own way when we ought steadily to walk in God's way, however difficult that may be to the natural man.—George Muller.

Finishing the Task.—Study to shew thyself approved unto God (2 Tim. 2:15). A friend of mine was building a house in China and had engaged an old Chinese contractor for the job. The house was nearing completion when my friend received word late one night requesting him to come at once to the house of the contractor. He found him very ill and in a dying condition. Noticing that the old fellow seemed to be troubled about something, he asked him if all was well between him and his God. The old man replied with a smile that all was well, that his sins were forgiven, and

that he was going back to his heavenly Father. But still feeling that something was troubling him the missionary questioned him further. Finally, the old man broke into tears and said: "It's all right with me, Teacher. I am going to the heavenly Father, but I did not want to go until I had finished the work I started for you. Will you forgive me, Teacher, for not finishing it?" What a great thing if all of us were as much concerned about finishing the work the Master has given us to do!—From the *Expositor*.

When the Packs Were Lightened.—Bring ... the books, but especially the parchments (2 Tim. 4:13). When Stanley was seeking for Livingstone, he started in Africa with 180 pounds of books. They were gradually abandoned till he had five books left, two on navigation, Carlyle, Shakespeare, and the Bible. Mr. Stanley said: "Poor Shakespeare was afterwards burned up; Carlyle and the navigating books were left by the way, and I had only the Bible left." In the end there is but one Book, the Bible.—From *Essex*.

SAVED TO SERVE

Why does God permit any saved soul to remain in this world for even twenty-four hours? It is because we are saved to serve! "I am among you as he that serveth." "Now if any man have not the Spirit of Christ, he is none of his," Rom. 8:9.—Selected.

LOVE AND LAW

God is ever putting lines of mercy amid all the black print of the law. It would seem as if wherever God could find a place at which He might utter some words of pity or compassion, He filled up that place with an utterance of His solicitude for the welfare of man. Loving words always look beautiful; perhaps they look most beautiful when surrounded by the contrasting words of stern righteousness, of unyielding law, of severe prohibition.—Joseph Parker.

SUNDAY SCHOOL BANNER

Here is an attractive all-purpose banner made with a plastic base, beautiful satin finish and felt lettering. It is attached to a rigid bar with a satin cord attached to the metal-knobbed ends, and a satin fringe is across the bottom. It is a lovely banner and suitable for many uses both in Sunday School services and on outings, socials, and other occasions when church identifications and beauty are desired. In the classes it has purposes too numerous to mention. Size 22x16 $\frac{1}{4}$ with 2 $\frac{3}{4}$ inch fringe. Price \$3.00.



ATTRACTIVE BANNERS

Increase your Sunday School attendance with these banners. They are beautifully displayed in colors to make these banners very beautiful to the audience.

Attendance Banner, size 13 $\frac{1}{2}$ x20. Price \$1.65.

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CHURCH OF GOD PUBLISHING HOUSE
Montgomery Ave., Cleveland, Tenn.

The Will of God for Us

CARL GREEN, PASTOR AT EAST GADSDEN, ALA.

"And he went a little farther, and fell on his face, and prayed, saying, O my Father, if it be possible, let this cup pass from me, nevertheless not as I will, but as thou wilt," Matt. 26:39.

Here we find that Jesus was on the threshold of one of the greatest events ever to take place on this earth. He was in the Garden of Gethsemane, praying to His Father concerning dying on the cross. For years the world had been suffering from the stain of sin. Its bitter taste had long been taken for granted as incurable. Everywhere could be found its marks, sickness and disease, demon-possessed on every hand. When one was possessed with the demons of sin and disease, it was conceded that the victim would more or less have to contend with it until the friend of death came to relieve him of its pains. But we find Jesus in the final dressing room of prayer, about to enter into the last act of an event that would crush the power of Satan and bring relief to the mass of suffering humanity. Jesus dying on the cross and shedding His blood was the greatest event of the Bible. It was the climax of all the prophets and writers of old. Many false christs had come and claimed to be the Messiah, but none had fulfilled the requirements. The power of the devil still had complete dominion over man. But thank God, the real Messiah was on the scene now, and the devil feared and trembled knowing his power would be crushed in a few hours.

Why was Jesus chosen for this great part in man's redemption? There were others who tried to be the Messiah. Then there were others who would have been so glad to be chosen for this part of God's program. You might say you don't believe there were any who aspired to this place, realizing the torture, pain and death that Jesus would suffer. But there were many who were tortured for months, suffered untold pain, and even requested to be crucified with their heads down for the cause of Christ. This was more from a personal standpoint, realizing that those who endured to the end would be saved. Now if there were many who suffered and died for their own personal salvation, or for the spreading of the gospel in a small section of the country where they were able to travel, think you that there were not many who would have been glad to die like Christ did, knowing the effect it would have on the world? Yes, I think so; but there were none qualified for the job but Christ. I have four reasons as to why I think the Lord Jesus was called upon to play this role in the plan of redemption.

First, it was in accord with the Scripture. Isaiah prophesied over 700 years before this that Christ would suffer the pains of the cross. Isaiah 53. Also, in Eph. 1:4 we find, "According as he hath chosen us in him before the foundation of the world..."

In whom? In Christ. The Lord Jesus existed before man was created. John 1:2. The same was in the beginning with God. In fact, man was made in the image of God the Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, making him a triune being; namely, body, soul, and spirit. Thus, as the Lord agreed to the creation of man, He, no doubt, talked it over and agreed to His part in the redemption. Thus, it was recorded in Scripture that Christ would be the one to die for the world.

Second, Christ was chosen for this important role because He was the Son of God. Many times He referred to Himself as the Son of God, and made it plain that if people did not believe it and accept Him, they would perish in their sins. John 8:24. The efforts of mere man were not sufficient to redeem the human race from sin. They had worked and died for the cause of God since Abel, but the power of sin was not broken. Also, the blood of animals was not sufficient to take away sins. It had to be the blood of God, shed on the cross, and carried to the altar of heaven, before it would suffice. Heb. 9:12. The Son of God, begotten by the Holy Ghost, without the aid of man, was in the position to make the atonement.

The third reason for the preeminence of Christ in this great event was His obedience. Always He referred to His Father. Many times He mentioned the fact that He spoke not of Himself, but what the Father desired. His will was to do the will of His Father, not that He did not have a will of His own, for He did, but His will was always immersed in the Father's. Not one time did He do anything contrary to His Father's will. So why shouldn't He be chosen now for the most important role in God's plan of salvation?

Then, fourth, we find that Jesus desired to do the will of God. This prayer was not an effort to get away from the cross, for that was the reason He came into the world. But Jesus was reminding the Father, assuring Himself, and proclaiming to the world that He was still willing for God's will to be done. He had taught His disciples to pray for God's will to be done in earth as it is in heaven. Matthew 6. No, He was practising what He taught. Think of it, the only person in heaven, or on earth, who was able to redeem man from sin, proclaiming in the ears of God, man, demons, and devils that He was willing to go to the cross that the power of Satan might be broken and that man could escape hell. Oh, what a Saviour! Hallelujah!

The will of God is important for all of us. Matt. 7:21, "Not every one that saith unto me, Lord, Lord, shall enter into the kingdom of heaven, but he that doeth the will of my Father which is in heaven." According to this statement, the only way to enter the



Rev. Carl Green

kingdom of heaven is by doing the will of God. Then we find in 1 Cor. 3:13, 15, "Every man's work shall be made manifest, for the day shall declare it, for it shall be revealed by fire, and the fire shall try every man's work of what sort it is. If any man's work abide which he hath built thereupon, he shall receive a reward. If any man's work shall be burned, he shall suffer loss, but he himself shall be saved, yet so as by fire." Here we see that it is possible to be a Christian and be saved from hell fire, and our works not be sufficient to receive rewards. Yet, it is impossible to enter the kingdom of heaven without doing the will of God. I do not say that one can do the will of God and their works be such as would not be rewarded; yet, we still have these two scriptures. We can, therefore, come to this conclusion, that God's will for us, in a measure, is according to our consecration.

Many times we aspire to a greater position in the church, such as that of a Sunday School teacher, or some other official capacity. There are times when we ministers desire better churches, or maybe we desire more recognition from our officials. There are times when we see God blessing others, seemingly, more than He is us, or maybe we desire God to use us in a greater way than He is doing. Well, for us to move up in these better positions we must first qualify ourselves for them. Some Christians are too good to go to hell, but, on the other hand, too worldly to be used of God. What will God do with these people, when His Word says that not everyone who says Lord, Lord, will enter in, but he that does the will of the Father? I think God's will for them will be to do the little things of life. Yet, if these same people would move up and get close to the Lord and be more consecrated, then God would see where He could use them in a greater measure. It would not be God changing His ways, but it would be us changing our ways and becoming

(Continued on page 15)

THINK ON THESE THINGS

By REV. T. O. DENNIS, PASTOR, 310 OVERBY ST., DANVILLE, VA.

Phil. 4:8, "Finally, brethren, whatever things are true, whatsoever things are honest, whatsoever things are just, whatsoever things are pure, whatsoever things are lovely, whatsoever things are of good report; if there be any virtue, and if there be any praise, think on these things."

Let's stop our imagination and do a bit of honest thinking. Webster says to think is to "form an opinion by reasoning." God says, "Come and let us reason together." I am thinking on some things I should like to pass on to you.

First, let us look at Mark 16:18: "They shall take up serpents." This is being taught to mean "pick up snakes." If this is true, everyone of us who do not pick them up is lost. He didn't say if we didn't believe in taking them up; but, actually, "take up serpents." Not "may accidentally," or "perhaps," but "shall," if we believe, and if we don't believe, we shall be damned. If this means to pick up snakes, let us start looking for some snakes.

"Think on these things." There is no reason for playing with snakes. You can go to a little tent in most any circus and see that without any power of God at all. The opinion I have reached is that Christ was talking about men, not snakes. Webster says a subtle, treacherous, malicious person is a serpent. The Greek word here used is "ophis," artfully malicious men, or the devil. The same word is in Matt. 23:33, "Ye serpents, ye generation of vipers, how can ye escape the damnation of hell?" He was not afraid snakes were going to hell, still He called them serpents. Peter took

them up so completely with the gospel that they said, "What shall we do?" You start any kind of doctrine you please and somebody will take up with it. A man by the name of Arvis started that Jesus was his own daddy and took up thousands of people with it. They are actually taken up with it. A serpent is not always a snake. In Luke 10:19, 20, spirits are called serpents. In Rev. 20:2, the devil is called a serpent. I don't think I have to pick up snakes to demonstrate the power of God, but I do believe that serpents have been taken up by my life and the gospel I preach.

Next, let us turn, in our 1948 Minutes, to page 184. The question is asked, "When one is born of God is he holy?" The answer quotes 1 John 3:9, "He that is born of God does not commit sin," and adds, "he is therefore holy to that extent." Let us think again. Can a man be holy to a certain extent and not holy the rest of the way, when a little leaven leaveneth the whole lump? Does God have children who are born again and ready to go to heaven but are not holy? Can one go to heaven with inbred sin or carnality in them? "To be carnally minded is death." I believe in sanctification as a definite, instantaneous work of grace, subsequent to justification, but I don't believe one is holy until one is sanctified. The word "regenerate" is the same as the new birth, or to make anew, and I don't believe a man is new with sin in him. Justification does not make holy; it is only pardon, according to Webster. The Greek renders it as an acquittal for Christ's sake. Quitting sins is not sufficient; let us go on unto perfection. "Think on these things."

NASHVILLE DOES IT AGAIN!

"This is the best report we have ever had," writes Sister Eva O'Kain on the bottom of her Sunday School report for October. And here's the reason. Nashville has a pastor who thinks records are made for only one purpose: To be broken.

It was your state youth director's privilege to be with the Nashville church for Sunday School on October 29, and I take great pleasure in telling you a little about it. Upon inquiry, I learned that their Sunday School record had been standing at 234 for ten years at the time Brother Bill Brown went there to pastor two years ago. That record was broken last January 1949, by a figure of 251, and the 251 record was broken November, 1949, with a figure of 325. Several times the old record of 234 has been broken without a special effort, now that the Sunday School is averaging 200 even without special days.

Upon arrival in Nashville, I found that very little preparation had been made to break their old record. Announcements from the pulpit and over their radio program largely constituted their efforts, because every-

body had been working on the old-church-made-new. Not content with having finished their basement and plastered its walls, and installing nice rest rooms and electric heating units throughout the new basement, this people so completely renovated their old building, which now is a T formation to their new basement, you would hardly know it as the same church. There is an addition of twenty feet to the auditorium, a vestibule, Gothic-style stained windows, new plush coverings for the floors and aisles, a gas heating unit, brick veneering of the front entrance, and already a number of new factory-built pews—well, there is no wonder they hadn't had much time to make personal contact for this record-breaking day.

To be perfectly frank, I was uneasy as Sunday School Superintendent O. M. Denton began hauling in what looked to me like all the funeral chairs in Nashville. Of course, we knew they would be needed for Brother Brown's funeral if the record were not broken, but if I could have believed there would be just one over their record, just 326, my relief would

have been sweet. My shock came, however, when classes were finished and marching into the auditorium I saw 391 in attendance (66 above the record) and \$175 in the offering. Well, we all had a good time then—workers, and quitters, and shouters, and doubters.

Under the direction of Sister Brown, the ladies prepared a lovely dinner, which was served in the new church basement.

Keep your eye on Nashville. The date has already been set when they will do it again!—*Tennessee Tidings*.

OPENING SERVICES FOR CHURCH OF GOD (Estevan, Canada)

Opening services for the recently completed Church of God tabernacle, at the corner of Fourth Street and Seventh Avenue, will be held Friday night and visiting Church of God officials will take part in the dedicatory service Sunday.

Construction of the church began last fall, and the first service was held in the basement last Christmas. Construction of the frame building was started this spring. All the work was done by volunteer labor, with Rev. J. A. Brost supervising. Rev. Brost drew the plans for the building himself.

The church is 54 by 26 feet and stands 21 feet high. The walls have white stucco finish, while the interior is of wallboard with a plywood floor.

The church will seat about 200 people.

Visiting officials during the opening and dedicatory services Friday, Saturday, and Sunday will include Rev. J. A. Rafferty, overseer of the Church of God in Western Canada; Mrs. J. A. Rafferty; Rev. Paul Seagraves, of Elbert, W. Va.; Ronald Christopher, of Bermuda; and Rev. Ralph Bostrum.

OHIO MINISTERS' MEETING

It is only natural for a minister to search his mind for a text when he has to write an article or sermon. A most fitting one for this article might be Acts 2:42, "And they continued steadfastly in the apostles' doctrine and fellowship, and in breaking of bread, and in prayers," or Psalm 133:1, "Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" Rom. 12:11, "Not slothful in business; fervent in spirit; serving the Lord." For, indeed, it was a pleasant time of fellowship, spiritual exhilaration, unity, and program planning.

The meeting began in the morning with the district overseers in council with Brother Paul H. Walker, our new overseer. Brother Walker, a man of much experience and ability, soon endeared himself to all by his congenial personality and energetic leadership. He had a well-planned agenda for us to work on, most of which was thoroughly discussed, and, with a few minor amendments, recommended to the council of ministers.

The afternoon session was taken up with business. This task was soon taken care of, and all plans were completed. (Continued on page 15)

...REVIVALS...

NORTH MATEWAN, W. VA., CHURCH OF GOD

North Matewan Church has taken on new life, with Rev. A. J. Swift as our pastor. We have just recently completed an old-fashioned revival, with 7 being saved, 4 sanctified, 4 baptized with the Holy Ghost, and 2 added to the church. The complete church was blessed in all departments. The Lord blessed with large crowds each night.

Also, we are completing a bathroom, which has been added to the parsonage. The Y. P. E. is helping in this project.

We are praising and thanking God for all He has done and is doing for us.—Wm. (Billy) Tate, Clerk.

WILLISBURG, Ky.—The Willisburg Church of God has recently had a revival in which 6 were saved, 5 sanctified, 4 filled with the Holy Ghost, and the church greatly blessed. Rev. J. W. Adkins was the evangelist. He is a good preacher and would be a blessing to any church.—Charlie Horn, Pastor; Albert Hood, Church Clerk.

CROSS CITY, Fla.—We truly praise the Lord for what He has meant to us here. We started a revival 5 weeks ago, with Brother Jones of Birmingham, Ala., doing the preaching. He preached for 2 weeks and had to go to a revival in Quincy, Fla., but our revival continued. God certainly did bless and is still blessing us. A while back we started to build our Sunday School attendance to 100, and we would almost make it, then fall back. Brother and Sister Carl White, of Wauchula Church of God, came here as our pastor and started canvassing the town, inviting people to come to church and Sunday School. The second Sunday they were here, we had 103 in attendance, and the next Sunday 116. We are looking forward to an outpouring of the Spirit. We expect to do great things for the Lord this year.—Mrs. J. L. Williams.

SHREWSBURY, W. Va.—The Shrewsbury Church of God recently closed a wonderful revival, with 26 souls gloriously saved, 2 sanctified, and 14 baptized in water. We truly thank the Lord for His great and mighty power in all the services. Not only were the young saved, but the old as well. We do want to thank the Lord for the 2 evangelists, Brothers Jimmy Pitman and Freddy Steele. Please pray for us here that we all shall keep on keeping on.—Beulah Lane, Reporter.

CALHOUN, Ga.—Crane Eater Church—We praise God for 2 weeks of wonderful preaching and singing, conducted by our new pastor, Rev. F. S. Smith. We are praying for one of the greatest years our church has ever had, and that more souls will be saved and filled with the Holy Ghost. We ask the prayers of everyone.—Lillie Mae Whitfield.

HAMILTON, Ohio—We greatly enjoyed a three weeks' revival here at Belmont Church of God, with Rev. Roy Dagnan, of Wallins Creek, Ky., doing the preaching. This great man of God spends from four to eight hours a day in prayer during revivals, and he seemed to know just what to do from the start of the meeting. He called us all together in a chain prayer and a chain fast. Some fasted eight days. God surely did bless by giving us some good members of whom any church and pastor would be proud. There were 5 saved, 5 sanctified, 2 filled with the Holy Ghost, 4 baptized in water, and 8 added to the church, including a preacher and his wife and some good singers and musicians, which will be a great blessing to our church. A goodly number was healed. Brother Dagnan secured 15 new subscribers to the *Evangel*. He

IT HAPPENED IN GEORGIA

(Continued from page 2)

through proper channels, which took time. The tent burned, with all of our pews, books, piano, and P. A. System, all of which were borrowed. The total loss was \$1,500. Everyone in Bowdon tried to appear guiltless. I called for help on my "Word of God Faith Broadcast" over WLBB the next day, for any who would come and help build seats. Some few came, and we continued our services in the open air. The local authorities would not investigate the burning of the tent. Brother Simmons went to Governor Talmadge and he sent the GBI, to no avail thus far. We conducted the services in the open air for many months, calling it the "Drive-in Church of God." While on this lot of ours, the tent burned and the neighbors on either side would not even allow us to as much as put one foot on the side of their property. One evening late a crowd passed by and showered me with rotten eggs. They continued to cut down our electric wires and sent me threatening notes of shooting me if I went in the pulpit to preach any more. Many times they tried to run my car off the road at night, and in the day, too. In the fall of 1949, I borrowed \$1,000, with another church official signing with me, from two faithful people. This lot, where the tent was burned, was given up in an effort to cooperate with the petitioners. I was very much opposed to this transaction, but some who claimed to know said the town would cooperate and give \$1,500 if I would. I felt it was like the first change, and sure enough it was; they were just as unfriendly as ever. We started the building on this borrowed \$1,000. During this God gave us a few faithful members who I can truthfully say I know to be real pure gold for God and His Church. The church is growing and doing well now. Look at the cover picture for proof. Our member-

is a real booster, a good preacher, and a fine evangelist. I recommend this precious man of God to any pastor anywhere. Our church is growing by leaps and bounds. Pray for us here.—Pearl Frazer, Pastor.

DENVER, Colo.—We just recently completed a two weeks' healing revival conducted by Rev. Jimmie Bentley. Brother Bentley is an outstanding young man who has really consecrated his life to God. He has sown seeds from which outstanding values will be reaped in the weeks to come. Pray for this church that a break will come, and this will be a real soul-saving station. Rev. W. F. Brannon is our pastor.—Leavah Prather, Church reporter.

DALTON, Ga.—We truly praise God for a good revival here. The Lord surely did bless. A number were saved, sanctified, and baptized with the Holy Ghost. Rev. Roy Dagnan, of Wallins Creek, Ky., was our evangelist, and we enjoyed having him with us. Rev. W. H. Gann is our pastor, and we all love him and his family. Pray for us.

ship would stand at nearly sixty but some fell by the wayside during the persecution. I'd like to name all of my members here but space will not permit me to do so. All during this we have had fine music rendered by Mrs. Alene Deese, Mrs. E. L. Williamson, who is the church clerk and bookkeeper for the Bowdon Commercial Bank, and Miss Marylin Dean.

I want you to read this carefully. Some of those who fought us so fiercely have already met with disaster. One of the ministers fell dead while preaching a funeral not long ago. The other one has been in the hospital many times for the past two years. Another one of our own ranks, who worked against us, has seen many days of sorrow and is drinking continuously. One of the petitioners committed suicide, and two others who were very much trouble to the writer and hindered in securing two different lots, are now in the hospital, and both of them have been off and on, for the past two years; many feel that they are on their deathbed. Many of the others have suffered misfortune. I want to say to each reader here, never try to take vengeance on your adversary; leave it to God. This case has made me know that when God said, "Vengeance is mine, I will repay," that He meant just what He said. Brother Albert H. Batts said, after coming here for a meeting and seeing and learning the circumstances, "This has been equal to the rebuilding of the walls of Jerusalem." Our state overseer said it was one of the hardest battles the Church has fought. Thank God, who giveth us the victory. I have not covered the details of the persecution, because it would take too much space. In the near future, watch for the book entitled "It Happened in Georgia." The entire story will be told in this book, together with pictures. Make sure you get your copy when it comes off the press.—Fred W. McWhorter, Pastor.

And When They Had Prayed, *Acts 4:31*

REV. U. L. HUDLOW, PASADENA, CALIF.

Then Peter said, "Silver and gold have I none; but such as I have give I thee: In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth rise up and walk. And he leaping up stood, and walked, and entered with them into the temple, walking, and leaping, and praising God."

Text: "And when they had prayed," the man was made whole. Before you pray, it can't happen; but after you pray, it can happen. God answers believing prayer. The Church must pray; families must pray; the individual must pray. Failure to pray has wrecked many a church; many homes and many individuals have gone on the rocks for the lack of prayer. We lose courage; we have no testimony for God, when we fail to pray. We lose our consecration and lose our vision. Many can go anywhere, but do not have time to pray. Prayer brings revivals; before we pray, it cannot be done. "Behold, I am the Lord, the God of all flesh; is there anything too hard for me?" If you have a hard problem you can't solve, bring it to the Lord. He specializes in hard problems. He is the great and mighty God.

Nebuchadnezzar forgot his dream. Daniel could not tell his dream, but he and the three Hebrew friends prayed, and God revealed to Daniel the king's dream in a vision. And when Daniel had prayed, he spent a night in the lions' den. The three Hebrew children—and when they had prayed, they threw them in the fiery furnace. The fire could not hurt them, only burned the cords with which they were bound. Jesus went through the fiery furnace with them. He will go with you and me, brother; if we will believe His Word. The three Hebrew children said to the king, "We know our God is able to deliver us. But if he doesn't, we will not serve your gods."

And when Elijah had prayed, "then the fire of the Lord fell, and consumed the burnt sacrifice." 1 Kings 18:38-42. Elijah prayed again for seven times, and there was a great rain. Acts 9:34. And when Peter had prayed, he said unto Aeneas, "Jesus Christ maketh thee whole: arise, and make thy bed. And he arose immediately." Verses 39 and 40, "But Peter put them all forth, and kneeled down, and prayed; and turning him to the body said, Tabitha, arise. And she opened her eyes; and when she saw Peter, she sat up." Verse 41, "And he gave her his hand, and lifted her up, and when he had called the saints and widows, presented her alive."

Our way to God is by the avenue of prayer, praise, and thanksgiving. Our gifts are perishing for lack of being used. There is a great spiritual power for every believer. This is the accepted time for me to pray. Many a person, no doubt, has failed—failed in keeping the family altar, to his

great sorrow, seeing his family all unsaved, going the way of the world, trapped by the enemy. Jesus says: "Occupy, till I come." We shall never accomplish very much for God and His Church, our state, or our community, until we become efficient in waiting before God, efficient in prayer. We must spend more time in prayer before Him. My text: "And when they had prayed, the place was shaken where they were assembled together, and they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and they spake the word of God with boldness." Exod. 14:21, 22, "Moses stretched out his hand over the sea; and the Lord caused the sea to go back by a strong wind all that night. And the children of Israel went into the midst of the sea upon the dry ground" and crossed over to the other side. And Joshua said unto the people, "Sanctify yourselves, for tomorrow the Lord will do wonders among you," Joshua 3:5. "And the people passed over right against Jericho," Joshua 3:16. Prayer and faith in God put them over Jordan. Joshua 6. By faith the walls of Jericho fell. "And it came to pass at the seventh time, when the priests blew with the trumpets, Joshua said unto the people, Shout; for the Lord hath given you the city," Joshua 6:16.

After Abraham had prayed, God gave him a son. Abraham believed God and became the Father of the faithful. After Solomon prayed, God gave him more than he asked for; he became the wisest man of all time. But when he failed to pray, he lost out with God and went into idolatry. After the one hundred and twenty had tarried and prayed for eight or ten days, "they were all with one accord in one place. And suddenly there came a sound from heaven as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared unto them cloven tongues like as of fire, and it sat upon each of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." When did they receive the Holy Ghost? "And when they had prayed" and become of one mind and one accord.

Oh, how the Church needs to wait on God today in fasting and in prayer. In view of the alarming conditions of today, FAITH IN GOD becomes the greatest need of the hour. "But without faith it is impossible to please him: for he that cometh to God must believe that he is, and that he is a rewarder of them that diligently seek him." Hebrews 11:16. "And whatsoever we ask, we receive of him, because we keep his commandments, and do those things that are pleasing in his sight," John 3:22.

Jesus Christ is like a great reservoir of unlimited power. We can take from Him, by faith, all the life, health,

strength, power, wisdom; in fact, everything needed for a complete physical, material, and spiritual prosperity. Psalm 33:9, "For he spake, and it was done; he commanded, and it stood fast."

We shall not receive an answer to our petitions until we learn to ACT upon His promises as if we had already received, for faith is manifested by putting our HEART BELIEF INTO ACTION, regardless of the promptings of the flesh, not to accept as reality anything that our physical senses of sight, hearing, feeling, tasting, and smelling have not experienced. Many want to SEE and FEEL first, IN ORDER TO BELIEVE GOD'S PROMISES. GOD WORKS CONTRARY TO HUMAN EXPECTATIONS and demands that we believe His promises and prove our heart belief by ACTING UPON THEM, BY COUNTING IT DONE, and calling those things which be not as though they were. Rom. 4:17. Our faith is made perfect BY ACTING UPON GOD'S PROMISES or it is not faith at all. James 2:22, "Seest thou how faith wrought with his works, and by works was faith made perfect?" God wants us to trust Him and be obedient.

Mark 2:11 says, "I say unto thee, Arise, and take up thy bed, and go thy way into thine house." In the natural realm, SEEING IS BELIEVING; but in the spiritual realm BELIEVING IS SEEING. Read Mark 17:24; Heb. 4:3; Phil. 4:6, 7. The ten lepers had no teaching to encourage their sight or feeling to believe, but were simply told: "Go, show yourselves unto the priests." They proved their heart belief by ACTING upon the CREATIVE WORDS of the Great Physician. AS THEY WENT they were cleansed. Luke 5:5, "We have toiled all the night, and have taken nothing: NEVERTHELESS AT THY WORD I WILL LET DOWN THE NET."

There was a pious old patriarch who was a ferryman. On his oars he had inscribed respectively "FAITH" and "WORKS." A passenger asked what he meant. HE then took up the oar "FAITH" and attempted to row with it, but the boat went in a circle, made no progress. He next took up the one marked "WORKS" with the same result. He then took up both, and together the boat immediately shot ahead across the lake. James 2:17, "Even so faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone." See verses 20 and 26 of same chapter.

Let us act on the Word of God. Abraham was called to go. He went. If he had not acted on the Word of God, he would not have become the father of us all by faith. May God bless this message to your heart.

CORRECTION

The telegram on page 2 of November 11 issue of the "Evangel" should have read "70 saved, 29 sanctified" instead of 17 saved, 2 sanctified," at Gadsden, Ala., in the Roland Verrio revival. We are sorry for this mistake.

THE POWER OF THE SPIRIT . . .

(Continued from page 9)

send the Comforter, the Holy Ghost. He began to break the news to them this way. He said, "The things that I do shall ye do also, and greater things than these shall ye do, because I go to my Father." Then, in the same chapter, He said, "Whatsoever ye shall ask in my name, that will I do, that the Father may glorified in the Son . . . If ye love me, keep my commandments. And I will pray the Father, and he shall give you another Comforter . . . even the Spirit of truth; whom the world cannot receive, because it seeth him not, neither knoweth him: but ye know him; for he dwelleth with you, and shall be in you." Oh yes, He told them He would send them a power. And what is that power? "Ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you"—power to heal the sick, power to cast out devils, power to preach the gospel of divine deliverance, power to bind up the brokenhearted, power to declare the acceptable year of the Lord. This power is on me tonight. If a man has the power of the Holy Ghost in his life, He can expect the same miraculous ministry that Jesus had when He was here. And because we expect that, we see that.

Now Luke 24:49. It was time for Him to leave. They stood with Him on the hillside of the Mount of Olives. There He gave them the final instructions. He talked to them about being one. He prayed for them, and then He gave a parting message. It seems to me the Lord's last words are of vital importance. Oh, how they ought to be treasured by us today! Jesus said, "Behold, I send the promise of my Father upon you: but tarry ye in the city of Jerusalem until ye be endued with power from on high."

One hundred and twenty, including Mary the mother of Jesus Christ, made their way to the upper room. They hadn't been there but a few days until Jesus Christ said to His Father, "Father, I promised them before I left that I would ask you to send them the Holy Ghost. Now, if You will, please send Him to them." It was the will of Almighty God, and with tongues of fire and like a tornado sweeping over the country, the sound of the mighty rushing wind, the 120 received the initial outpouring of the Holy Ghost. Peter said, "No, we are not drunk as ye suppose. This is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel; In the last days, saith God, I will pour out my Spirit upon all flesh." Did it work? Sure, it worked. After Peter preached the sermon that turned thousands to Christ, he reached over and got old Brother John by the hand, and said, "I feel as though I want to go down to the Temple and pray awhile." John said, "I believe I'll go along." They marched down from the upper room and tore out down to the Temple. A crippled man had been lying at the Temple gate for 38 years. He had been there all the time that Jesus was here on earth. Why he didn't get healed, I don't know; but he didn't. Peter and John

walked up, and the man held out his hand and said, "Give me something." No doubt, Peter and John had passed him many times before, but formerly they didn't have what they have now. There is a difference before and after. Don't let the Holy Ghost lie dormant in your soul. Let Him work. It is time for people to wake up and realize that they have victory against the powers of the devil through the power of the Holy Ghost. So he said, "Silver and gold have I none, but such as I have give I unto you." He had something, and he knew it. You don't have to be so modest about what you have.

Peter said, "In the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, rise up and walk." Did the crippled man sit there? No. He got up. Why? Because the power of the Holy Ghost was in operation, and it brought the miraculous into operation. Things began to happen. The man got so happy he broke up the meeting in the synagogue, shouting, leaping, and praising God. I don't blame people for shouting and leaping and praising God when they get born again, when they get healed, when they get set free. I saw a woman jump out of a wheel chair the other night. She wasn't Pentecostal. She was a Methodist. She had been in that wheel chair twelve years. When I prayed for her, I said, "Get up and walk." She said, "I'm lame and I can't walk." I said, "Woman, I asked God to loosen your knee." "Oh," she said, "you did?" And she jumped up out of the chair. You see, the woman believed, and faith brought the result. People have a right to shout when something like that takes place.

He said, "The works that I do shall ye do also; and greater works than these shall ye do; because I go unto my Father." Do we believe that? The power that is within us is greater than the power that is in this world. You don't have to be subject to that which opposes and oppresses your life. You are free tonight, because God will vindicate His Word. He sets the captive free. Let us believe it. Let us shout about it. Let us take it.

Listen, friends. The Spirit's power is ours. It is for anybody who believes Almighty God. There is no choice one today who has a monopoly on God's power. I repeat, it is the power of the Holy Ghost, the Administrator of Divine Gifts. If you have His power in you, He will bring forth the divine manifestation of that gift at the necessary hour to meet the opposing power of darkness, whatever it may be. Let us stay full of the power of Almighty God, and the Spirit of God will bring the gifts into action.

If there is one here tonight who is unsaved, or one here tonight who is backslidden, I could never close this talk tonight without saying just one word to you. You are living in the period of the greatest revival that ever swept the world. I believe with all my heart this is God's last revival. I believe this is God's last call. I'm not alone in my faith tonight. There are many who believe the same thing. The men that God is using most to bring out the thousands and lead them to Christ tonight share with me the be-

lief that this is God's last call. It is time to get saved. If you don't find God now, you may never find Him. I don't know how many sinners there are here tonight, but the law of averages tells me that in an audience of 1,200 or 1,500 people, somebody will die and go to hell unless he comes to God tonight. The law of averages tells us that out of an audience this size, there is someone who is getting his last call tonight. It may be one who has known God and drifted away. It may be one who has never known God. But think it over while I pray. Let God speak to your heart.

THE WILL OF GOD FOR US

(Continued from page 11)

qualified for better things. Promotions come from the Lord. He promotes us to fill only the places that we are qualified to fill. Men make assignments contrary to this plan sometimes, from a political standpoint, yet if we are promoted by the Lord, it will be because we consecrate ourselves and qualify ourselves for the position. We do not have to meet the requirements from a worldly standpoint, but we do have to be consecrated and close to the Lord for Him to use us. It is easy for the Lord to call upon us to do a little special favor for Him, providing we are close enough for Him to speak to us. If not, He will, no doubt, call upon one who is near Him. Those who are doing such splendid work in the healing ministry first had a desire and, denying themselves, placed themselves in a position that made it easy for God to use them in that way. So, let us not grumble and complain if we are not in the higher positions; rather, let us consecrate our lives more fully to God. The Lord will use us in time.

OHIO MINISTERS' MEETING

(Continued from page 12)

pleted for a well-rounded church program for the next year. We sincerely feel that God is going to give us a great and prosperous year under the leadership of Brother Walker. We're looking forward to the fruition of our plans and an old-fashioned, heaven-born, God-sent, Holy Ghost camp meeting that will send its echoes ringing down through the corridors of time while the ages roll on.

The evening service was a great time of fellowship. The singing was "tops," with Rev. Whit Denson getting out of the congregation a euphonious crescendo of "glory's" and "hallelujah's," along with the beautiful songs. A number of specials were given, and a lovely mission offering was taken, after which Rev. Saayman delivered a soul-stirring message on "The Church, the Arm of the Lord." Oh, how this message thrilled us! What zeal it aroused in us, and how much we assured ourselves that we were going to work harder for our Lord! Surely, it was well to have been at the Ohio state ministers' meeting.—W. P. Stallings, Reporter.



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